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PAGE 01 USUN N 03036 222106Z
ACTION IO-19

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	ARA-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DOEE-00
	EAP-01	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-03
	ADS-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	OIC-02	OIG-04	OMB-01	PA-01
	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00
	T-00	USIE-00	SA-01	CORE-00	/051W		
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P 222103Z JUN 93
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7632
INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
JOINT STAFF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 003036

STATE FOR IO/UNP, AF/C AND AF/RA;
WHITEHOUSE PASS TO NSC;
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PAGE 02 USUN N 03036 222106Z
JOINT STAFF FOR CHAIRMAN, DIR JS, J5

E.O.12356: DECL:6/17/98
TAGS: MARR, PREL, MOPS, UN, RW, UG
SUBJECT: USUN CONVEYS TO UN CONCERNS ABOUT RWANDA

REF: USUN 2899

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY: USUN POLOFF AND FMUN POLOFF MET JOINTLY

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WITH UN SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS JUNE 14 TO RELAY THE RESULTS OF THE US/FRENCH 6/11 MEETING ON RWANDA (REFTEL). THE UN ASSERTED THE PREROGATIVE OF THE EVENTUAL FORCE COMMANDER TO MAKE DECISIONS ON HOW TO SAFELY CARRY OUT THE OBSERVER FORCE'S MANDATE. END SUMMARY.

3. USUN POLOFF SHESTACK AND FMUN POLOFF BERMAN MET JOINTLY WITH UN MILITARY ADVISER GEN. BARIL AND DEPT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS (DPKO) SECTION HEAD HEDI ANNABI JUNE 14. SHESTACK CONVEYED USG CONCERNS ABOUT THE EXTENT OF THE OBSERVER FORCE'S MANDATE, THE ROLE OF THE UGANDANS, FOOT PATROLS AND HELICOPTER FLIGHTS, DRAWING ON THE POINTS MADE BY THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE JUNE 11 MEETING WITH THE FRENCH (REFTEL). THE FRENCH WERE MOSTLY SILENT PARTNERS IN THIS MEETING.

4. GEN. BARIL POINTED OUT THAT THE UN IS ALWAYS CONCERNED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF ITS UNARMED OBSERVERS, WHETHER THEY BE IN BOSNIA, MOZAMBIQUE, CAMBODIA, UGANDA
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PAGE 03 USUN N 03036 222106Z
OR ELSEWHERE. THE CONCEPT BEHIND OBSERVER MISSIONS LEADS TO ALL SUCH MISSIONS BEING VULNERABLE. THE FORCE COMMANDER WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DECIDING HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE OBSERVER GROUP'S MANDATE IN THE SAFEST WAY. HE ARGUED THAT THE SMALL NUMBER OF OBSERVERS IN THE MISSION WOULD IMPOSE LIMITS ON THE MANDATE OF THE MISSION. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE OBSERVER GROUP WOULD NOT STOP ANY VEHICLES, BUT INSISTED THEY WOULD REPORT ANY ARMS SHIPMENTS THEY SEE, EVEN SMALL ONES CARRIED BY HAND. HE CONCURRED THAT IT WOULD BE THE UGANDAN ROLE TO STOP AND INSPECT VEHICLES.

5. BARIL AGREED WITH THE FRENCH CHARACTERIZATION OF THE "FOOT" PATROLS MOVING PRIMARILY BY VEHICLE, WITH THE OBSERVERS DISEMBARKING FROM TIME TO TIME TO GET A PANORAMIC VIEW FROM HILLTOPS. HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE EASY FOR THE OBSERVERS IN A SHORT TIME TO ESTABLISH A PATTERN OF WHAT GOODS WERE CROSSING THE BORDER. HE PROMISED THERE WOULD NOT BE EXTENSIVE NIGHT PATROLS, BUT HE RESISTED THE IDEA OF RESTRICTING THE OBSERVERS FROM WATCHING FOOT PATHS.

6. GEN. BARIL ALSO INSISTED THAT HELICOPTERS WERE THE UN'S BEST TOOL FOR MONITORING THE TRAFFIC ACROSS THE

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BORDER, AND THAT THEY COULD SAFELY FLY WITHIN 10 METERS OF THE BORDER. HE REASSURED POLOFF THAT FLIGHTS WOULD ONLY BE UNDERTAKEN WHEN FLIGHT CONDITIONS WERE RIGHT, AS WOULD ALWAYS BE THE CASE IN ANY PKO.

7. POLOFF POINTED OUT THE IMPORTANCE OF BEGINNING CONTINGENCY PLANNING, TO AVOID UNDUE DELAYS IF THE
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PAGE 04 USUN N 03036 222106Z
SECURITY COUNCIL DECIDED UPON A UN-LED NEUTRAL INTERNATIONAL FORCE. BARIL AND ANNABI COMMENTED THAT IT WOULD SET A PRECEDENT FOR THE UN TO UNDERTAKE CONTINGENCY PLANNING BEFORE A FORMAL SC DECISION. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE JOINT AGREEMENT WORKED OUT IN ARUSHA JUNE 11 CALLED FOR A UN RECONNAISSANCE MISSION, WHICH WOULD BE EXPECTED MAKE A REPORT UPON ITS RETURN.

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